

The new XM Satellite Radio traffic and weather channels are invaluable in my area (Los Angeles Metropolitan). NO OTHER SOURCE is available in this area with the in-depth and continuous traffic coverage supplied by XM Satellite Radio. It is and has been a huge timesaver for me in my daily commute to and from work and when getting out of town.

I have been an XM customer for over 2yrs now and can't imagine my audio life without it. The programming content is FAR SUPERIOR to anything offered on commercial radio and is well worth the monthly subscription fee.

If the commercial airwaves are afraid of losing business to satellite radio, in general, then they need to understand why they are losing business. NO ONE LIKES COMMERCIALS!! Especially every 5-10 minutes (or sometimes less). It is annoying and can, in some cases, lead to an increase in "road rage" as you keep changing channels, hoping for music or news, or traffic or weather and all you keep getting is commercials!!

I listen to commercial radio in the morning only, for ONE particular morning show; after that it is back to XM and commercial free music and continuous, up-to-date (and that's the key!!) traffic/weather updates.

If I am paying for this satellite radio service, and the broadcaster wants to provide this kind of information to its subscribers, then it should be allowed. There is no competition in the satellite radio business now that would justify banning them from broadcasting this information. AND AGAIN, I'M PAYING FOR IT!! It can only be received with special equipment (and not cheap!!).

This is exactly the same situation as cable or satellite TV. You pay for certain non-over-the-air channels that provide unique content, that requires special equipment. There is no law restricting that!! Nor should there be for satellite radio.

This is a blatant attempt by over-the-air broadcasters to restrict free trade. They are afraid of losing valuable revenue!! AND there are less than THREE (3) MILLION subscribers in the US, a very, very small percentage of the total listening audience. It is, in fact, an attempt at restraint of trade, and radio monopoly.

We have the right to choose what we listen to, how we listen to it, and from where we listen to it!!

I urge the FCC to strongly reject the NAB's petition 04-160 and encourage competition in the broadcasting world.